



# ST. GIANNA BERETTA MOLLA ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

ARCHDIOCESE OF WINNIPEG

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*“To transform the world by choosing unconditional love and sacrifice”*

- Parish Mission Statement

## First Sunday of Advent

December 2, 2018

### PARISH TEAM

**Reverend Fr. Darrin J. G. Gurr**

Pastor

**Reverend Fr. Kelly Wilson**

Parochial Vicar

**Deacon Gilles Lorteau**

Deacon

**John Eisma**

Pastoral Associate responsible for Liturgical Music Ministry

**Rachel Suarez-Banmann**

Pastoral Associate responsible for Family Faith Formation

**Kristi Stubbings**

Pastoral Associate responsible for Global Awareness & Social Action

**Ernest Lacuna**

Administrative Coordinator

**Romeo Suban**

Operational Business Manager

**Reg & Jane Todd**

Custodial

### MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

**MONDAY, December 3, 2018**

No Mass

**TUESDAY, December 4, 2018**

6:00-6:45 p.m. **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

7:00 p.m. **Liturgy – Novena Mass in Honour of St. Gianna**

Intention: + Donna Senicki / Chesia Senicki & Bela Lorinc

**WEDNESDAY, December 5, 2018**

9:30 a.m. **Liturgy - Ferial**

Intention: + Jane Cadieux / Raymond Cadieux

**THURSDAY, December 6, 2018**

No Mass

**FRIDAY, December 7, 2018**

9:30 a.m. **Liturgy - Memorial - St. Ambrose**

Intention: The Averia Family / Maria Averia

**SATURDAY, December 8 - Second Sunday of Advent**

4:30 p.m. **Liturgy**

Intention: + Purisima Ocampo / Marilou Valmonte

**SUNDAY, December 9 - Second Sunday of Advent**

9:00 a.m. **Liturgy - Intention: + Joselito de Lumen / Susan Quintana**

11:00 a.m. **Liturgy - Intention: For All Parishioners**



**Remembering Those Entombed or Memorialized  
in Living Waters Columbarium:**

December 1 - Domingo Y. Naval

December 2 - William McCallan



**T**ribulation. Wildfires. Tsunamis. Moral corruption. Disease. War. We tend to associate these things with the end times, and perhaps for good reason! In today's Gospel, Jesus says: "People will die of fright in

anticipation of what is coming upon the world." Not exactly putting us in the Christmas spirit, is it? During Advent, we anticipate a celebration of Christ's first coming. There is a quiet stillness about our waiting, or at least we try to encourage that in ourselves. Perhaps we have an Advent devotional or we take time to pray together as a family around the Advent wreath.

But Jesus did not come only once into history. During Advent, we remember that he will come again. You may remember the rapture craze in the early 2000s, when a series of books and movies envisioned a future where Jesus was coming soon and all the true believers had been whisked away. Everyone else had one more chance to repent before things really went to hell...literally, in this case!

But is that what Jesus is talking about here? The truth is, we don't know what Jesus' Second Coming will be like. The actual return of Christ - though sudden and perhaps frightening to some - should not frighten us. Despite all the stories we may have heard about the apocalypse, the advice of Jesus is not to hang our heads or cower in fear. "Stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand." In a certain sense, we are already living in the end times. We already encounter great tribulation. We all find it easy to get distracted or discouraged in the grind of daily life. Today's Gospel reminds us that vigilance for God's presence is needed now.

**CATHOLIC QUOTES - WORDS TO INSPIRE THE FAITHFUL**

"The season of Advent means there is something on the horizon the likes of which we have never seen before."

- Jan Richardson

**LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK**

As we begin our Advent journey in preparation for the celebration of Christ's birth and in anticipation of his coming again in glory, we are reminded of our need to be vigilant and prepared. This short season of Advent can be a mini-retreat for us who find ourselves living in a world that is often counterproductive to developing mature, focused, and meaningful relationships with God. Being a Christian and standing firm in our faith requires a strength that can only come from prayer. These four short preparatory weeks can help us look back to what God has done in history, to what God continues to do in our lives today, and to what God promises for the future. May we use this Advent time wisely, calling us to greater holiness.

**KIDS' CORNER**

One day Jesus will come back to take us home to live with him in

heaven. So when scary things happen around us, we do not need to be afraid. We can stand up tall, because we know heaven will be so much better than this world.

**Write down one thing that scares you. Tell God about it, and ask him to help you to be brave.**



Thank you to all parishioners who have renewed their Stewardship of Treasure Commitment for 2018.

**Sunday's Offertory - November 25, 2018**

Pre-Authorized Giving:	\$ 14,000.00
Noah's Buddies	\$ 9.40
Loose:	\$ 756.95
Votives:	\$ 226.40
Novena Mass	\$ 467.30
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$ 15,460.05</b>

Our minimum weekly offertory income requirement: \$20,000.00

Christian Stewardship acknowledges that everything we have and hold comes from God, given to us for our good and the good of the world. A Stewardship response calls us to return to the Lord the first fruits of all that had been given. Traditionally for many, this means the first hour of our weekly income. At St. Gianna's, all are asked to consider this measure of Stewardship as the beginning of their annual parish financial support. In Manitoba, the hourly minimum wage is currently \$11.35. Therefore, the starting point for our financial offering should at least reflect this minimum. If the household is a dual income family, then the starting point of our gift would be \$22.70. The goal of Christian Stewardship is to eventually grow toward true Christian Tithing, which means 10% of our total household income. All gifts that we give to God always comes back manifold.

### Hampers for Families in Need

Food items and children's gifts are now being collected for twelve families sponsored by St. Gianna's through the Christmas Cheer Board. Please stop by the table in the Narthex after the liturgies to **select a food item card or gift tag** that will go towards one of our sponsored families. All food items and children's gifts must be brought to the church **before December 16, 2018**. Suggested gift costs: infant to 6yrs = \$14.00, 7 to 11yrs = \$16-\$19, and 12yrs and over = \$20-\$25. The families' Christmas Hampers will be assembled immediately following the 11:00 a.m. liturgy on December 16. Thank you for participating in this special initiative.



### New Offertory Cards for the New Liturgical Year



**These are available the tables in the narthex, in alphabetical by last name.**

We are pleased once again, to offer parishioners a series of personalized offertory cards for the new liturgical year to those participating in our Pre-authorized giving program. These cards can be placed in the Sunday offertory basket as a sign of your commitment to share your gift, as well as a tangible witness of your participation in our pre-authorized giving program. These personalized cards bear your name and identify the date of each Sunday of the year. It is our hope that the personalized, offertory card will ensure that each Sunday, our gift is more personal and real, proudly bearing each of our names as the giver of each gift that we bring.

### New additions in Living Waters Columbarium



Please take time to visit Living Waters Columbarium in the lower level of the Church. New niche banks have been added with many located on the central access, adjacent to the Baptismal Font. The new series now includes family entombment niches for the cremated remains of 4, 8, and 10 persons. Our columbarium, the first of its kind in Canada, continues to be a part of the great witness of faith that we can proclaim even in death. *"May our souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace."*



### Knights of Columbus Update

On Tuesday, November 20, on behalf of our Knights of Columbus council, Grand Knight, Darin Banmann, and Golf Committee Chair, Doug Sutherland, presented a cheque of \$3,050.00 to Jennifer Campbell, President & CEO of Special Olympics Manitoba. The amount represents the proceeds from the 2018 Manitoba State Golf Tournament hosted by St. Gianna's Knights of Columbus council.

### Prayer Ministry Orientation Session - December 3

Our next Information / Orientation Session is on Monday, **December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** The Perpetual Prayer Ministry invites participants to become part of a growing twenty-four hour a day prayer chain that keeps a prayer vigil in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. All are welcome!

### Christmas Poinsettia Memorial Program



This season, we will once again offer a Christmas Poinsettia Memorial Opportunity. A donation of \$25.00 can be made in memory of a deceased individual or couple. The names of those being remembered will be listed on our Christmas Memorial Banners. The beautiful poinsettias adorning our worship space will be a wonderful reminder of our beloved deceased, present among us, throughout our Christmas celebrations.

### G.I.F.T. Family Faith Formation - Introducing FAITH!

We are proud to introduce "FAITH!- Faith Alive In The Home". FAITH! brings specially curated resources to your family so that you can keep the faith alive in your home. Each fun and interesting video, prayer, song, activity, ritual and gospel reading will help the entire family learn more about their faith and give them practical, fun and engaging ways to 'do' faith at home. Visit our website under "Family Faith Formation".

### Renewal of Treasure for 2019

This year our annual renewal of treasure commitment Sunday will be held on **January 12 and 13**. The Finance Council has chosen to wait until the beginning of the new year in order to provide our 2018 financial statement simultaneously. We thank you for your ongoing financial commitment to the mission and ministry of St. Gianna's Parish and we look forward to a great year ahead! *Thank you for being a part of Something Great'*

### Renewal of Stewardship of Talent

Our annual renewal of ministry involvement will take place on **January 26 and 27**, 2019. This year's renewal will include all areas of ministry involvement including: Liturgical Ministries, Faith Formation Ministries, Outreach Ministries, Community Building Ministries, as well as various other supportive Ministries. This year, almost a dozen new ministries have been added to our ministry catalogue. For those now at the completion of a three year commitment in a particular ministry, they are asked to consider a new ministry opportunity. The Parish Pastoral Council will lead this effort.

### Office Hours

Effective Monday December 10<sup>th</sup> our parish office will be open Tuesday to Friday 9:00am-5:00pm and Saturdays 10:00am-4:15pm. The office will be closed on Mondays. It is our hope that this Saturday option will provide better accessibility to our parish office for parishioners who work weekdays.



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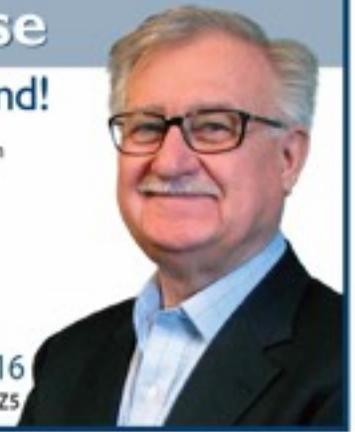
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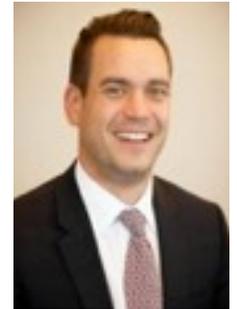


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